Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* We made all the relevant enquiries, but not as to the number of copies of the *Mathrubhumi* sold here.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Is any additional cost involved in allowing this?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* To the best of my knowledge there would be no additional cost to the department.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* On the other hand you will be getting some profit.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* That aspect has been adverted to by three hon'ble members.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTORAL ROLLS—DIFFERENCES IN NUMBER OF VOTERS

62. Mr. C.R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Will Government be pleased to name the three constituencies of the Legislative Council, the preliminary electoral rolls now prepared and the last electoral rolls of which show the largest difference in the number of voters and state the number of difference in each?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):*

Constituencies	*No. of voters as per the rolls of 1113*	*No. of voters as per the preliminary rolls of 1116*	*Difference*
1. Chittur-Tattamangalam ..	3582	2046	—1536
2. Kunnamkulam ..	6426	5050	—1376
3. Ernakulam (Women) ..	6373	7433	+1060

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether in view of the fact that there is so much of difference in the number of voters Government will look into the matter and see that the list is revised and something is done?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* I have already looked into the matter and there is absolutely no reason for any doubt that the list is properly made. In this connection, I will read the reports obtained from the Tattamangalam Chairman, the Chittur Chairman and the Chittur Tahsildar in the matter:

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The report of the Tahsildar runs as follows.—

"The reasons for the abnormal decrease are—

(1) In the rolls prepared in 1113, pattadars and all others owning lands in the Constituencies were included in the rolls without taking into consideration whether they possess the necessary residence qualification as enjoined in rule 3 of Schedule II to the Cochin Legislative Council Electoral Rules. I examined thoroughly the electoral rolls prepared in 1113. It is found that more than 153 persons in Nemmara and 333 persons in the Chittur Rural Constituencies who are permanent residents in British India and in other constituencies who have no residential qualifications are entered in the rolls. The very nature of the entries made in the rolls would convince anybody that under the above rule, they are not qualified to be electors in the respective constituencies. It appears that the provisions contained in the rule regarding residence qualification of electors was entirely ignored when the rolls were prepared by the Special Officer appointed for preparing the rolls in 1113.

(2) Again, under note (3) to rule 4 of Schedule II to the electoral rules, any person of either sex who is duly qualified for the franchise under clause (g) and who wishes to go into the rolls should apply to the Registration Officer for the inclusion of his or her name in the electoral rolls. In the rolls published in 1113, there are 337 voters who are enfranchised under clause (g) in Nemmara and 127 in Chittur Rural Constituencies. In the roll published the number of these enfranchised under clause (g) is negligibly very small in both the constituencies. The omission to include those qualified under clause (g) is due to the absence of applications from those qualified as required in note under rule (3). It may be noted that a notification regarding the applications for registration as voters in the Chittur Taluk Registration area, was published in the Government Gazette. Spare copies of this notification were also published in all the villages of the Constituencies;

From the above facts it may be seen that the number of voters excluding the number which could not be included in the rolls if the rules are strictly adhered to will be reduced."

So far as Talappalli Taluk is concerned, there is some further additional reasons. Some of the land holders who have their lands in several parts have been included three or four times, each village officer putting the name of the individual in his list. Now we have eliminated such names appearing several times.

These are some of the reasons and the whole question was raised during the Budget Session of the Council.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* May I know whether the hon'ble member is aware that the residential qualification insisted upon by the former rules have been deleted afterwards?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Not to my knowledge.

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Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* After the election case in Nemmara, on the recommendation of the Election Commissioners a change has been effected in the rules.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* The Madras Rules have now been adopted *mutatis mutandis* in view of the observations.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* In the light of the clarification of the rules, will the arguments contained in the report just now read hold water?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* It is only a portion of the report that will be affected. We have plenty of time to put in objections before the revising authority. First of all, we gave three months' time and we further extended it to six months. There is no rule by which we can amend the electoral rules as we like. There is only one method prescribed. Those who have been affected by the rejections could well have preferred their claims before the revising authorities.

CYCLONE—DAMAGE TO HOUSES AND CULTIVATION—PARTICULARS OF

63. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they have collected statistics as to the damages caused by the cyclone to houses, to cultivation, etc.;

(*b*) if so, will a brief statement of the same be placed on the table and also the nature of the relief measures undertaken by Government?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) A statement is placed on the Council Table *(Appendix II)*. Relief was given to the affected people by way of free grants, free distribution of rice, and by granting of loans.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* May I know which Taluk was most affected?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* The Trichur Taluk.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* May I know the percentage of houses that were damaged?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* We have not taken the percentage of houses damaged. We have only taken the total number of houses damaged.

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